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K. Matthews 543

Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554

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Mr. Norman R. Grote
1835 Open Range Road
Crossville, TN 38555

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

Dear Mr. Grote:

President Clinton has asked that I respond to your letter regarding improving television programming. Please be assured that the President shares your strong concern about the quality of television programming, and has taken a number of steps to act on this concern. In particular, he has strongly urged the television industry to improve program content, and especially to curb violence and indecency in programs directed to or viewed by children. In addition, the President recently signed the Telecommunications Act of 1996 which, among other provisions, permits the FCC to prescribe rules that require that televisions be equipped with devices (termed the "V-chip") enabling parents to block programs with certain ratings. This legislation also requires the Federal Communications Commission to develop guidelines for rating violent and indecent programming if the television industry has not developed a voluntary ratings system by February 8, 1997. After a meeting convened at the White House earlier this year, television industry leaders announced they had reached a general agreement to implement a ratings system by early next year.

You indicate that you do not believe the "V-chip" is a solution to the problem of inappropriate programming, instead preferring to give the American people the ability to control the programming that is produced. The V-chip would be implemented in conjunction with a program ratings system (or systems), which the President would prefer be developed by the private sector rather than the government. The President does not consider this by itself a panacea, but he does believe it will provide significant assistance to parents to monitor the programs their children watch, while avoiding the First Amendment concerns raised by some government attempts to control program content.

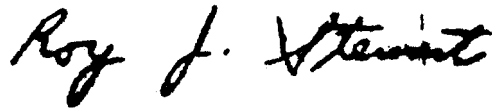
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Mr. Norman R. Grote

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In addition to calling on the television industry to improve programming and empowering parents to curb the exposure of children to television violence and indecency, President Clinton, together with FCC Chairman Reed Hundt, has voiced strong support for increasing the quality and quantity of educational and informational television programming for children. The FCC has proposed to strengthen its rules governing educational children's programming. These measures, if implemented, would also contribute toward improving the overall quality of television programming.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Roy J. Stewart". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Roy J. Stewart
Chief, Mass Media Bureau

km:pp:leg:prd:mmmb
typed: 05/21/96

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

MMB
MM
2190

APRIL 12, 1996
DATE

MEMORANDUM FOR:

FCC-11

FROM:

SUE J. SMITH *JS*
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF AGENCY LIAISON

SUBJECT:

REFERRAL OF CASEWORK IN BULK

An unprecedented number of individuals still write the President and the First Lady for help. I know that this has meant a far greater volume of mail for your agency than ever before. I appreciate your continuing cooperation in our efforts to be as responsive as possible.

The attached letters have not received a White House Staff response. I am forwarding this correspondence to your agency for any appropriate action.

Please return the original incoming letter, along with a copy of any written or telephone response, to me at the address below. I also would appreciate your sending a copy of your agency's log of the names and addresses of these individuals. Any misreferrals should be returned to my office. If you have questions you can reach me at 456-7486.

Sue J. Smith
Director, Office of Agency Liaison
Room 6, OEOB
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Again, thank you for your continuing help.

~~FGH/AS/522~~ Rec
Dear President Clinton

I know you have many pressing problems but may I ask you to consider a problem that we your people have. I know a "chip" has been considered to be installed in T.V. to allow bad violent, porno, obscene, police orientated shows on T.V. That is not the solution.

When T.V. started in the late "40's" all shows were designed to offer clean wholesome entertainment and enjoyable programs for the entire family.

The next 50 years have only proved when people under freedom of speech have ruined T.V. Money hungry perverts from the metropolitan areas produce porno, violence, murder, police & sex garbage and force us to view it.

Since most of us have to rely on
cable which we pay for to either
accept the garbage produced or do
without. We have no say as to content
of programs. Why can't T.V. be
censored & controlled? Is there no
limit to the abuse of the freedom
of speech privilege?

The present "Nelson" ratings have
long been attiguated & proven useless.
The only true method is put it to
the people. A commission that would
take polls by mail of 10% of each
state population every year for 10 years
so everyone has a say. In the 10
year period year by year clean out
what we don't like, or want.
~~It is~~ ... with controls

We would have a T.V. System
well cleaned & run better & no problem.

The disgusting T.V. talk shows
(28 alone in our area) that should be
flushed down the commode.

① Why not put it as a referendum
on the 96 election. Should the
people have control over T.V. prod
uctions as a few permits as it is

now. ~~Stop~~ ~~my~~ ~~of~~ ~~all~~ ~~questionable~~ ~~shows~~

② Why not put a federal lottery
on the referendum to pay the deficit
Leane Soc. Sec. & Medicare alone.

Since the Republican party can't
come up with any really comp
etition as to opposing you. I do
not think you will have any
trouble being re-elected.

Who wants a pineapple in the 14th house? Not me!

Best wishes to you & Hilary & family - God be with you.

Sincerely yours
R Grote
(m) M. Norman

I have written to FCC; (2) state senators, (1) Congressman, a T.V. (national) betterment organization, 17 T.V. Stations to date only 8 T.V. Stations have answered my letters no one else. I guess no one cares! No you?



Mr. & Mrs. Norman R. Grote
1835 Open Range Rd.
Crossville, TN 38555